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THE CONDOR

An Illustrated Magazine
of Western Ornithology

Published Bi-Monthly by the Cooper Ornithological Club of California.

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Thru the energetic efforts of Miss Bertha Chapman the Bryant collection of birds has been secured by popular subscription for the public schools of Oakland. There were 420 splendidly mounted specimens, together with a number of study skins and eggs. The price paid was not given out, but we venture to surmise it to have been in the near neighborhood of one thousand dollars.

Messrs. Finley and Bohlman returned early in July to their homes in Portland, Oregon. Altho their season's work in southern California was considerably shortened owing to the accident to Finley, they were successful in obtaining what is probably the rarest series of bird photos ever captured. We are not at liberty to make further announcements now, but will have more satisfactory information for our readers in our next issue. Watch for the November CONDOR!

Col. L. L. Hawkins, but recently become a member of the Cooper Club, died at Portland, Oregon, March 11, 1906. He was a life-long lover of nature, but had never restricted himself to any one field. His chief pleasure was derived from contributing to the interest of others in natural history. With that end in view he had founded a valuable museum in Portland.

Mr. J. Eugene Law spent the greater part of

August at Camp Agassiz extending his acquaintance among the birds of the Tahoe region.

Mr. P. B. Peabody wishes to extend cordial thanks to those who responded to his appeal for information in our May issue. He reports "Nesting Ways" to be growing apace, but there are still many species on his query list to learn about. Mr. Peabody has removed to Blue Rapids, Kansas, and will be glad to have correspondents address him there hereafter.

Mr. Edward R. Warren, of Colorado Springs, spent the latter half of August camera-hunting in the Yellowstone National Park.

Mr. Milton S. Ray recently interviewed one of the lighthouse keepers just in from the Farallones. He reports the April earthquake to have been severe on the Islands, the effect being to somewhat disturb the location of the bird rookeries. (See Emerson, CONDOR VI, May 1904, pp. 61-68.) At Great Murre Cave much of the over-hanging rock fell down raising the floor many feet and changing its whole aspect. The cave under Light Tower Peak has been closed up by the falling debris; and an immense amount of rock fell down at West End. The light tower was practically unharmed, however.

In *The Journal of the Maine Ornithological Society* for June appears a photograph remarkable even now in the day of so much clever bird photography. It is a profile view of a song sparrow in the act of delivering "his most rollicking melody." Two things observable are that the tongue is entirely hidden altho the mandibles are widely apart, and that the throat is not prodigiously distended. These points should be kept in mind by some of our artists.

Thru Mr. John E. Thayer we learn that W. W. Brown has returned safely from a partially successful visit to Guadalupe Island, Lower California. He failed to find the caracara, towhee, and wren (*Thryomanes*), peculiar to the island. This arouses the fear that these species are gone forever.

Mr. O. W. Howard spent the past summer in the Mt. Whitney region of the Sierras, where he obtained many rare nests *in situ*. These were displayed at the August Southern Division meeting. Many were the comments in praise of the energy and ingenuity required to accomplish such perfect results. The nests were transported home practically unruffled, together with a large portion of the immediate surroundings. Such a collection is vastly more instructive than the accumulation of eggs alone, or of these with the bare nests, often mere fragments.

Mr. Edmund Heller recently returned from

Africa where he has spent the past year or more in the interests of the Field-Columbian Museum. He reports a pleasant as well as successful trip. Some ten tons of specimens were secured, including series of large mammals, mostly ungulates, for mounted groups. The larger and more important birds of the region were also obtained in groups suitable for museum display. The greater part of the work was done in central East Africa at elevations ranging from 5000 to 8000 feet. This area was found to be well watered, cool and free from malaria, in spite of its being directly under the equator; so that the work was carried on with comparative comfort. Mr. Heller has been engaged in field-work now for nearly five years, and heartily welcomes his new assignment to museum duties, which will keep him in Chicago for the coming year at least.

Minutes of Club Meetings

NORTHERN DIVISION

As no May meeting was expected to be held on account of the disaster to San Francisco and neighboring cities, a special meeting was called at the home of H. O. Jenkins, Stanford University, on April 28, 1906, to consider important business.

Vice-President Fisher occupied the chair and ten members were present, seven of whom were represented by proxy.

In view of the indefiniteness at present existing under the Constitution and By-Laws of the Cooper Ornithological Club as to the disposition of the annual dues, especially as regards the amount to be applied to *THE CONDOR*, a resolution was adopted, providing that one dollar of the annual dues of each member be designated as the amount to be applied as yearly subscription for *THE CONDOR*, thereby constituting each active member a "legitimate subscriber" to the publication; and further that the remainder of the annual dues of each member over and above the one dollar before designated shall be applied to said publication also, to legitimate current expenses of the Club, or to such other business as may be provided for by the Constitution and By-Laws. This action became necessary owing to the technical requirements of the Post Office Department, in admitting *THE CONDOR* to the one cent per pound mailing rates.

Another resolution, as follows, was read and passed:

WHEREAS the California Academy of Sciences has recently lost by fire its entire library, together with its building and collections; and

WHEREAS it has come to the knowledge of the Club that an effort will be at once made to form a new library; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Club donate to said Academy whenever called upon by its librarian, a set of the Club publications (with the exception of the first volume of *THE CONDOR* which is out of print).

The following were elected to membership:

Allan Brooks, Okanogon Landing, B. C.; Bertha Russ, Ferndale, Humboldt Co., Cal.; Frank M. Woodruff, Chicago Academy of Sciences; Col. L. L. Hawkins, Portland, Oregon; Clark C. Van Fleet, 2020 Pacific Ave., S. F., Cal.

The name of Mr. Charles W. Metz, 323 W. Loucks St., Sheridan, Wyoming, was proposed by P. B. Peabody.

The resignation of M. Ella Hall was read and accepted. As no program had been prepared the meeting adjourned, the time and place of the next meeting to be decided later.

H. O. JENKINS, *Secretary*.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

APRIL.—Regular meeting convened in the Clerk's Office, City Hall, Los Angeles, April 27, 1906. In the absence of both the President and Vice-President, Mr. Morcom was appointed President-pro-tem. Members Stephens, Grinnell, Lelande, Robertson, Dixon, Willett, Clifton, Antonin and Alphonse Jay, Newcombe and Law were present, with Messrs. H. T. Bohlman and A. J. Cromer visiting.

The minutes of the last meeting, March 22, were read and approved. The application of Mr. Chas. E. Cosper, of South Pasadena, Cal., for membership in the Club was presented in due form by Mr. Burnell Franklin. On motion by Mr. Robertson seconded by Mr. Alphonse Jay, and duly carried, a resolution was adopted securing more definite allotment of club funds, especially in regard to *CONDOR* expenses, this action being necessitated by the Post Office requirements.

The question of a spring outing meeting was discussed and, on motion of Mr. Law, seconded by Mr. Antonin Jay and duly carried, it was decided to hold the outing meeting at Newhall May 19 and 20.

Messrs. Bohlman and Finley having very kindly consented to give the Club another of their illustrated lectures on birds, Messrs. Lelande, Robertson and Law were appointed a committee on arrangements, with power to act, to confer with Messrs. Bohlman and Finley and arrange for such a lecture early in June. [Owing to the accident to Mr. Finley, this undertaking had to be given up.]

An interesting letter from Mr. F. S. Daggett, formerly President of the Southern Division, was read, telling of recent collecting experiences (without collecting) about Chicago, and of his vain endeavors to "shake" civilization. Evidently a day in the California field would be a welcome treat to him. Another letter, from Mr. Carroll Scott, was read, giving additional field notes from Searchlight, Nevada.

A very instructive paper on collecting chests was presented by Mr. Frank Stephens. [Appears in full in this issue.]

Mr. Antonin Jay gave in a paper, a partial list of the sets of turkey buzzard collected by himself and his brother Alphonse Jay, describing minutely the nest and situation in each case. A paper on the Bell sparrow by Mr. Wright M. Pierce, was read by the Secretary in the absence of the writer. Adjourned.

J. EUGENE LAW, *Secretary*.